MINUTES

OF THE

Mount Pleasant Primitive Baptist

ASSOCIATION

CONVENED WITH THE

Zion Hill Church, Tattnall County, Georgia,

October, 20th., 21st., and 22nd., 1899

STATESBORO STAR PRINT, Statesboro. Ga.

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CHURCHES AND THEIR OFFICERS.

CHURCHES	County	PASTORS	CLERKS	Post Offices
Banks Creek....	Bulloch.	A. Munlin	Z T Hodges..	Blitch, Ga.....
St Paul	Wash'ng	J. B. Moseley	J C Smith . .	Riddleville, Ga. . . .
Eden	Tattnall.	A. Eason . .	G Jackson...	Collins, Ga. . . . .
Mt Pisgah. . .	Bulloch.	W. Hodges. .	J Parish . .	Parish, Ga . . . . .
Bethlehem. . .	Emanuel	J. B. Moseley	H E Smith . .	. . . . .
Bethel. . . .	Bulloch.	W. Hodges...	H Moore....	Statesboro, Ga . . .
Zion Hill . . .	Tattnall	A. Jackson..	L Kennedy...	Bellville, Ga . . . .
New Hope. . .	Bulloch.	W. Hodges...	H Groover...	Statesboro, Ga . . . .
Little Flock . . .	Emanuel	Daniel Cook.	J Kelsey. . .	Emma Lane, Ga . .

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Elder A. Munlin, Portal, Ga.
" J. B. Moseley, Powell "
" W. Hodges, Blitch, "
Elder A. Jackson, Collins, Ga.
" A. Eason, Quince "

LICENTIATES.

Daniel Cook, Manassas, Ga. W. H. Haines, Davisboro, Ga. G. W. Watson, Summertown, Ga. M. S. Williamson, Savannah, Ga. Jas Kelsey, Emma Lane, Ga.

MINUTES.

The thirteenth annual session of the Mt Pleasant Primitive Baptist Association held with the church at Zion Hill, Tattnall county, Ga., Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October, 21st., 22nd, and 23rd., 1899.

1st. 11 o'clock a. m., the introductory sermon was preached by Eld. A. Munlin from Luke 12th., chapter and 5th., verse: "But I will forwarn,you whom ye shall fear,fear him which after he hath killed, hath power to cast into hell. Yea, I say,fear him." Then 30 minutes intermission.

2d. After which the ministers and messengers assembled in the house, sang hymn 535. Prayer by Eld. A. Jackson.

3d. Called for and read letters from the several churches. All were represented and generally in peace.

4th. Then organized the body by re-electing Eld. A. Munlin, Moderator and Eld. W. Hodges, Clerk.

5th. Read the decorum.

6th. Adopted the order of the business of the last session as the order of business for the present.

7th. Called for petitionary letters. One was handed in from Little Flock church of Emanuel county, Ga., and said church was received by the association, the moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to its delegate.

8th. To invite visiting brethren and ministers to seat with us.

9th. Called for correspondents. None, Eld. A. R. Ross was present from the Ocmulgee was received as a visitor.

10th. Appointed the following committee on preaching, as follows: Brethren R. Spikes, L. Kennedy, W. C. Dugger, A McRae, and S. Lee.

11th. Called for report of the committee on preaching. They reported as follows: Brother James Kelsey to preach Saturday morning, 10 o'clock and followed by Eld. A. Eason. Saturday p. m., Eld. A. R. Ross to preach followed and closed by Eld. W. Hodges.

12th. On motion, adjourned until Saturday morning, 9 o'clock.

13th. Met Saturday morning pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. A. R. Ross, then the moderator pronounced the association in order for business. Called the roll, delegates all present.

14th. Appointed the following committee to arrange general meetings as follows: Brethren G. G. Smith, G. Jackson, J. W. Watson and W. Hodges.

15th. Appointed the following brethern to write the corresponding letter: Brethren R. L. Brown, J. Bell.

17th. Called for the report of the committee on general meetings Committee reports that the general meeting to be held with the church at Mt Pisgah, 12 miles west of Statesboro, Ga., begins on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in July, 1900.

17th. On motion agreed that the association be held with the church at New Hope, Bulloch county, Ga., begining on Friday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1900, five miles south of Nellwood, Ga., on the S. & S. railroad, and twelve miles east of Statesboro, Ga.

18th. Called for the circular letter, which was read and received by the association.

19th. Appointed the following Elders as correspondents: J. B. Mosley, W. Hodges; A. Munlin, alternate. Session convened with the church at Walker Chapel, Baldwin County, Georgia, 5 miles South West of Meriwether station and five miles north of Brown's crossing, on Central of Ga., railroad, beginning on Friday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1900, also the question of sending correspondents to the Ocmulgee Association was laid over until the general meeting.

20th. Appointed Eld. A. Jackson to write the next circular letter.

21st. On motion agreed to have 250 copies of minutes printed and the clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the same.

22d. Called for contributions. Contributed to W. Hodges $9.25 for minutes and to Eld. J. B. Mosley $21.75 for messengers.

23d On motion agreed to close, hoping to meet a goodly number of our brethren and sisters and friends at our next association. Sang hymn 616; prayer by Brother R. L. Brown.

ORDER OF PREACHING FROM DAY TO DAY.

SATURDAY MORNING, 10 O'CLOCK:—Brother James Kelsey preached from John 11:35, followed by Eld. A. Eason from Ps. 22:1. In the afternoon Eld. A R. Ross preached from Rom. 8:1, followed by Eld W. Hodges, 1st. Cor. 20.

SUNDAY MORNING 11 o'CLOCK:—Eld. J. B. Mosley preached from Eph. 5:1, followed by Eld. A R. Ross from Isa. 55:1, followed and closed by Eld. A. Munlin. Each of the brethren came to his time and preached Jesus Christ and him crucified. May the good Lord enable them to earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

Dearly beloved Brethren in the Lord, composing the Mt. Pleasant Primitive Baptist Association held with the church at Bethlehem, Emanuel county, Ga., October, 21st., 22nd., and 23rd., 1898.

Now dear Brethren in the Lord, as you hath appointed me to write the next circular letter which is to be read at our next association and after it is read and approved by you, then it is to be inserted in the minutes of 1899.

Beloved Brethren in the Lord, I do not know whether I can write anything that will be comforting to you or not, but I hope that the good Lord may direct my pen to write in love, for Christ says, without him, ye can do nothing. So dearly beloved Brethren I will call your attention to the 5th., chapter of the first Epistle of Paul to the church of Thess. 11:12;13 verses. Wherefore comfort yourselves together and edify one another even as ye also do and we beseech you Brethren to know them which labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you and to esteem them very highly in love and to be at peace in the house of God and this would be edifying one to the other, for God is love and love worketh no ill will to his neighbor. Dear Brethren, peace is the great walls of zion, for Christ says: Peace I leave with you. John 14:27. Dear Ministers of Christ, it will not do to take hold of the plow and then look back to the world. Let us not look at the things which are seen, but at those things which are not seen, for we know that according to testament scriptures all the children of God shall be taught of the Lord, and great shall be the peace of thy children. Dear old Fathers we have written unto you because you hath known him, that is from the beginning, we have written unto you young men, because you are strong, Jno, 1, 13--15. I believe that we should be strong in grace, that is in Christ Jesus. So

dear household of faith, I hope that God will enable us to live in peace one toward another. We take the old and new testment scriptures to be the word of God. We declare that we take the new for the rule of our faith and practice. Dear Brethren, when this poor letter is read and if approved of you all right and if not, all is well.

So may God help us to live united together is the prayer of the unworthy servant. Amen. WASHINGTON HODGES.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

Dearly beloved Brethren in the Lord, through the great and tender mercy of our heavenly Father we have this grand privilege of meeting in another associate capacity to perform the business that is assigned us in love and peace. We are very glad to say that all of our churches were represented and generally in peace with each other and seem to be growing in the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Our correspondence was not as full as we desired, but we were made to rejoice at the coming of our most appreciated Brother Eld. A. R. Ross and do pray for a continuance in the same in our further associations and we do pray that we continue to stand firm in the faith once delivered to the saints. We send to your honorable body as our correspondents: Eld. J. B. Mosley, Eld. W. Hodges, and Eld. A. Munlin; alternate. Our next association will be held with the church at Newhope, Bulloch county, Ga., five miles south of Nellwood, Ga., and twelve miles east of Statesboro, Ga.

CHURCH STATISTICS.

CHURCHES	MESSENGERS' NAMES	Meet'ng Days	Baptized	Rec. by lett'r	Recommend'd	Restored	Expelled	Dead	Total	Money for Minutes	Messengers
Banks Creek	J. Bell, W. Hodges	4	1	..	..	..	1	1	19	$1.00	$3.00
St. Paul	G. G. Smith, R. L. Brown.	3	..	..	..	..	1	3	73	3.00	6.00
Mt. Pisgah	J. P rish, A. Mc Rae	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	.75	1.75
Bethlehem	R. Spikes, J. Watson	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	20	.75	1.35
Eden	G. Jackson, W. C. Dugger.	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	1.00	2.50
Little Flock	J. Kelsey.	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	.25	1.00
Bethel	B. Hall, G. Denmark.	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	27	1.50	3.50
Zion Hill	L. Kennedy, J Wilkerson.	3	2	..	..	..	1	..	15	1.00	2.00
New Hope	M. Goodman, S. Lee	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	.50	1.00

CONSTITUTION.

We, the Primitive Churches, were formerly from the Upper and Lower Canoochee Associations, met together and composed the Mt Pleasant Association, viz: Banks Creek, St. Paul, Bethlehem, Mt. Pisgah and Eden. Delegates from these churches met on Friday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1887, at Banks Creek Church, and did then and there agree to unite on the following principles:

1st. This Association shall, if they think proper, meet annually as an advisory council.

2d. This Association will be composed of messengers from the several churches, so that each church may have two messengers, if they choose, and no more, and the messengers' names shall be inserted in their letters.

3d. This Association shall have power to make its own rules to govern itself, while in session, but none of the rules shall be binding on the churches, for they are free, and of right ought to be.

4th. It shall be the duty of this Association to give her best advice, in cases of difficulty, and endeavor to keep up a union among the churches, and arrange general meetings

5th. The Association may admit into its body any church whom they find sound in faith and moral in practice. Also, if any church in our order wishes to withdraw from this body, she may do so at her discretion, or, on application, she may have a letter of dismission.

6th. As the love of money is the root of all evil, and has produced so much distress among people, and we wishing to live in peace, therefore, this Association shall not encourage religious speculations called missionary, or by any other name, under pretence of supporting the gospel.

7th. We, the churches composing this Association, believing the books of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, declare we take them for the rule of our faith and practice.

DECORUM.

1. This Association shall open and close with prayer.

2. Those members who are regularly chosen by the churches in our body shall compose the Mt. Pleasant Association. The members thus chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with the number in fellowship, with those received, excluded or dead since our last Association.

3. This Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by the members present, and who shall hold their offices until the next election.

4. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preserve order, explain and put questions. He shall have the same right of speech as other members, provided the chair be filled, but shall not vote except the body be evenly divided.

5. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a fair record of all the proceedings of the Association, and the minutes then shall be read and amended, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

6. Any church applying by letter and delegates for admission who, upon examination, is found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the association, manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand

of fellowship to its delegates.

7. Each church shall have the right to send only two delegates to the Association.

8. Every question presented to the Asshciation shall be from church authority.

9. Every motion made and seconded shall claim the action of the Association, except withdrawn by the person making it, with consent of the Association.

10. Every person who speaks in debate shall rise and address the Moderator and shall not be interrupted while speaking, except he depart from the subject.

11. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.

12. There shall be no talking in time of public speech, nor reflection cast upon the speaker.

13. Whenever a case is decided by vote, there shall be no more debating on the subject.

14. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave from the Moderator.

15. Whereas, there are so many institutions of men, benevolent so-called, and believing it to be our duty to provide for a general union of the churches, we therefore declare non-fellowship with all of them and we will not hold any church in union with us that is connected with all or either of them, or their kindred relations, holding them to be unscriptural.

16. It is the duty of this Association to provide for the general union of the churches; to give her best advice in matters of difficulty, and if the union between any of the sister churches be broken, to inquire into the cause of the breach, and to use her endeavors to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be healed, to withdraw from any church or churches that may be unsound in the faith or immoral in practice, until they be reformed.

17. To keep up a correspodence with other Associations of the same faith and order, that a chain of connection may be preserved among the churches.

18. To invite ministers of our faith and order to seats with us.

19. These rules shall be read at every Association previous to entering on business.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead, viz: Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

2. We believe in the fall of man and his inability to recover himself.

3. We believe Jesus Christ to be the Son of God.

4. We believe in particular election, effectual calling of the elect, and final perseverance of the Saints.

5. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God.

6. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the ordinances of Jesus Christ, and the washing of Saints' feet an example, and that no man has the right to administer the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper but such as are regularly called, and come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery.

7. We believe that immersion is the scriptural mode of baptism.

8. We believe in a final judgement, in a future reward and punishment and that of eternal duration.

9. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

COMMUNION MEETINGS AT EACH CHURCH.

BANKS CREEK—4th Sunday in March, June, September, December.
ST., PAUL—3rd Sunday in February, May, August, November.
MT PISGAH—3rd Sunday in March, June, September, December,
EDEN—1st Sunday in January, July, October.
BETHLEHEM—4th Sunday in May, August, November.
BETHEL—2nd Sunday in March, June, September, December.
ZION HILL—3rd Sunday in April, September.
NEW HOPE—1st Sunday in March, June, September, December.